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PATENT

#12 10/18/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Lind et al.

Serial No.: 09/838,028

Group Art Unit: 1646

Filed: April 19, 2001

Examiner: John D. Ulm

Title:

NOVEL G PROTEIN-COUPLED RECEPTOR

Express Mail Number: EV147552809US

Deposited: October 9, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action dated July 9, 2002.

REMARKS

Claims 1-81, all the pending claims, are subject to a restriction requirement.

The Examiner required Applicants to elect one of thirteen patentably distinct inventions for examination. The Office Action alleges that each of the inventions is distinct because, *inter alia*, "they have no common utility which is based upon a shared structural feature . . ." (Office Action at page 4).

Applicants provisionally elect herein Group III encompassing claims 30-35, "drawn to an isolated polypeptide, classified in class 530, subclass 350".

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that no serious burden would be imposed upon the Examiner by combining several of the groups.

Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the claims encompassed by any of the non-elected groups in future divisional applications.

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